

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE SUN
At the Greeneville Christian Women's Club's "Snowmen" luncheon are, from left: Area Representative Aline Montieth; vocalist Betty Beach; speaker and feature presenter Carolyn Sofield; and members Joyce Kellis and Audrey Graves.

Christian Women's Club Hosts 'Snowmen' Luncheon

The Greeneville Christian Women's Club's "Snowmen" luncheon was Feb. 23 at Greeneville Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Audrey Graves, member, greeted those in attendance. Decorations were provided by Rhonda Johnson and Aileen Montieth.

Carolyn Bowers, chairman, welcomed everyone and presented first time attendee gifts to Latasha Keller, Kathy Callander and Mahayla Callander. Bowers then led in prayer, after which the group enjoyed a catered luncheon.

Aline Montieth, area representative, introduced the 2018 Leadership and Planning Team. Rhonda Johnson, regional representative, presented each member with a rose.

Team members, in

addition to Montieth and Johnson, include Carolyn Bowers, chair; Arleen Maxwell, vice chair and invitations coordinator; Shirley Scarborough, prayer coordinator; Alta Cunningham, Stonecroft Bible Study Team coordinator; Betty Proctor, administrative assistant; Linda Waddle, financial coordinator and publicity; Joyce Harness, reservations and child care coordinator; Patty Callander, Welcome Team coordinator; and Rebecca Bowers, music coordinator. At the luncheons, Graves serves as greeter and Renda Scott is pianist.

A door prize drawing was conducted by Joyce Harness, reservations coordinator, and Carolyn Sofield, speaker, and was won by Joyce Kellis.

Bowers invited everyone to attend the upcoming Bible studies and introduced Arleen Maxwell, vice-chair, who invited those in attendance to the March 23 "Birthday Celebration" luncheon. At that gathering, Jane List, of Knoxville, will be the speaker. Her topic will be "How to Live the High Life." The featured presenter will be Sharon Hodges, of the Hope Center. The vocalist will be Barbara Laws accompanied by pianist Renda Scott.

Bowers then introduced the feature presenter, Carolyn Sofield, from Seymore, who discussed "Sharing Your Legacy." Rhonda Johnson, regional manager, then discussed finding her mother's Bible and the family questions answered because her

mother "shared her legacy" by recording life happenings in the Bible.

Johnson then presented the "Friends of Stonecroft" report. Rebecca Bowers, music coordinator, introduced the vocalist Betty Beach, who sang "I Won't Let Go."

The speaker, Carolyn Sofield, was introduced by Carolyn Bowers, and spoke about "Women of History and Influence."

Bowers thanked each participant and invited everyone to attend the March "Birthday Celebration" luncheon. She also urged those in attendance to invite friends and family. The organization is open to all women.

Reservations for the luncheon are required and can be made by calling Joyce Harness at 234-0023.

COMMENTARY

Rejection

Several weeks ago I shared with you my desire to expand my readership by getting a literary agent. I promised I would keep you informed of the outcome. This is the email I got back from her:

"Dear Ella,

"Thank you for your patience in waiting to hear back.

Unfortunately, I am not taking submissions at this time, but nonetheless I wish you the best of luck with this and future projects.

"All best wishes, "Sarah Jane"

Needless to say, I was disappointed until I remembered all the other rejections I have had in my life. Oddly enough, thinking about past rejections made me feel thankful for this one. Here is why.

My earliest sting of rejection started all the way back in elementary school when the two Pams would not let me play hopscotch with them. "She's too fat to hop around," they said as they snickered.

Brunette Pam was very popular because her much older sister was a Rockette who performed at Radio City Music Hall. Blonde Pam's claim to fame was that she was best friends with Brunette Pam. Together they ruled the school.

That was until the fourth-grade play when Chubby Ella beat them both out of the starring role. It was the scandal that rocked the elementary school. The Pams were furious, and tried to turn more people against me. I spent months being laughed at and made fun of until the night of the play.

Brunette Pam's family showed up, and her sister was there, too. After the performance, the famous Rockette sought me out to tell me what an amazing job I did. She said it in front of the two Pams, and that's not all.

She asked her sister why she never met me and why I have never been over to their house. She even said, "I can't believe you don't hang out with Ella. She is so cool and talented. You could learn a lot from her."

Ouch! I know that had to hurt Pam as she just hung her head.

After that night, I was "cool," and the Pams wanted to be my best friends. This was one of my first valuable lessons on the subject of rejection. Turns out, my life would be riddled with them.

The funny thing about being rejected is that it has always led me to something better.

Like the time my first husband left me and our newborn son. Without that rejection, I would have never met and married the amazing man I did.

John has been my husband for almost 30 years and adopted our son when he was 3. We then went on to have two more wonderful children, a story I chronicled in my column, "Adopting Love," on May 24, 2016.

Believe me when I tell you that he has been the best father and husband we could have ever asked for. To think — without the rejection of my first husband, I would have never had the joy of being with my husband, John, a man who is completely dedicated and in love with me and his children.

Then there are times rejection has forced me to think outside the box.

This is a little known fact about me, but, years ago when my husband and I lived outside of Nashville and I was running my hearing aid business, I had a dream of having a radio show. The local radio station was right down the street from my business, so I would run into the station manager and owner all the time.

When I saw him, I would tell him that I wanted to do a talk radio show and he would laugh and say, "No." "No, you have no experience." "No, you don't have an audience." No, no, no.

This went on for almost two years until one day, instead of asking him to let me be on the radio, I asked him how much it would cost to buy an hour of advertising space. Since I had a business, it was a fair question to ask, and he answered it.

Armed with the knowledge of the cost, I sought out to get a sponsor, which I did. Middle Tennessee Medical Center agreed to sponsor the cost of the hour-long spots for me to do a radio talk show. The only problem was the station manager and owner had no idea of what I was up to.

When I presented him with the fact that I had a sponsor for a show that technically did not exist, he was a little angry. But, more than that, he was amused. I left him with no choice but to succumb to my wishes, and an hour-long talk radio show was created. "Health Talk with Ella Price" was a hit. I did the show for a little over a year until my husband and I decided to move back to Greeneville.

This brings me to my latest rejection and the letter. Maybe it will force me to think outside the box and make something happen, like the radio show. Perhaps another literary agent will see my value, like Pam's sister, the Rockette, did.

Or maybe, just maybe, God will send me the perfect solution the same way John was sent to me.

Either way, I am excited knowing that this rejection, like all the others, will lead me to something bigger and better than I could ever imagine.

After all, life is mysterious.

The "Life Is Mysterious" column by Ella Price, caterer, blogger and now columnist, is published in Lifestyles every other Tuesday.



LIFE IS MYSTERIOUS
ELLA PRICE

Heartsisters Begin New Year With A 'Girls Day Out'



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE SUN
The Greeneville chapter of HeartSisters held its first "girls day out" meeting of 2018 at the home of Jan Shepherd. From left are Nina Smith, new member Cathy Walls, Jan Shepherd, new member Judy Harrison, Linda Sue Hill and Peggy Barnes. Not pictured is Reba Sams.

How To Submit Engagement, Wedding Announcements

All engagement and wedding announcements appearing in the Lifestyles section of The Greeneville Sun are published free of charge.

Fill-in-the-blank forms are available for both types of announcements. They may be picked up during office hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 121 W. Summer St. Forms may also be submitted online at GreenevilleSun.com by selecting the "Lifestyles" heading.

To ensure that a photo will appear with an engagement announcement, it

is requested that all necessary information be submitted two weeks prior to the wedding. Abbreviated announcements will be published for engagements with weddings occurring in less than one week.

Photographs must be of the couple only.

To ensure that a photo will appear with a wedding announcement, all necessary information must be submitted within one month following the legal wedding date. This deadline is strictly enforced.

However, alternate arrangements due to delays in professional photo availability can be made by contacting Lifestyles Editor Sarah R. Gregory at 359-3156 or lifestyles@greenevillesun.com prior to the one-month deadline.

Wedding announcements received after the one-month deadline will appear in an abbreviated format.

Wedding stories are placed in the newspaper in the order in which they are received. Specific publication dates and placement are not guaranteed.

Stories and photographs may also be submitted by email to lifestyles@greenevillesun.com with the same deadlines in effect.

Every effort to ensure accuracy of names will be made, but the Sun is not responsible for errors made due to illegible handwriting.

For more information, call 359-3156 during office hours, email lifestyles@greenevillesun.com or write to Lifestyles Department, The Greeneville Sun, 121 W. Summer St., Greeneville, TN 37743.